

Mirror editorials, etc.

Working together...

Ironically, the City of Carbondale is finding out how a problem some where else affects its own citizens. A wildfire has been burning in Carbondale Township for some time now and affects no township residents, but does affect some city residents who live near the township line.

Latest word comes that the township is not worried about the problem since none of its residents are affected.

And, contrary to some suggestions, the township will not be swayed by pleas from city residents. After all, who pays their taxes, where?

The city's administration has contacted township officials and has been told that, perhaps, the city even started the wildfire through careless dumping.

City officials have denied this charge and, for the moment, are stumped as to how to solve the problem.

Cooperation has always been a two-way street in our minds. And then the city could bill the township for each time city fire engines are called to put out a fire in the township — just this happened recently when city firefighters were called to put out a car fire in Salem Township.

May we stress that we believe in fire companies cooperating — coming to assist other fire companies upon the request of the "host" fire company.

And we see nothing wrong with answering another community's alarm because life and limb are often involved and firefighters should not quibble over whose jurisdiction is involved if one can get their first.

MS. waters VS.

BY NAX WATERS

The world is divided into two species of keepers — night owls and larks (as in happy as a lark). The owl likes to stay up late and sleep late. They don't function before noon, on any level. Larks wake up smiling and shining and heaven forbid, cheerful.

Unfortunately, one type usually marries the other.

As a night owl who is at her best at 2 a.m., I got my days and nights mixed up, as an infant, and never outgrew it. I've never had anything happen to me before 10 in the morning that wasn't a blur.

And on a recent, beautiful crisp autumnal morning, dazed and glassy-eyed, I felt compelled to turn over a new leaf (As my fate Father the philosopher used to quip: "Be sure there isn't a bug under it").

This morning, I thought, I will be pleasant. This morning I will not snarl at those

But if the township feels it has no financial stake in the mine fire just over the city's East Side border, then the city should show it that does have a financial stake in cooperating with city officials in putting it out.

Halloween is mean?

It's that time of year again when ghosts and goblins hit the streets of area communities.

And it's that time of year again when vandalism increases.

It's a sad fact, but true. We wonder why this has to be. After all, it really doesn't have to be. There seems to be an acceptance that Halloween means vandalism, property damage, etc.

We have been opposed to property damage of any sort.

No matter if it is at Halloween time or Christmas time.

And, if people say that it is our capitalistic ways, may we remind them that in socialist countries, property damage is not only a crime against the state.

In other words, property damage at Halloween is not acceptable in our minds.

It is just plain wrong and should be treated as such no matter what the season or holiday.

Closing doors

Evidence that national events and trends do affect this area popped up last week at Triangle Pacific announced that it was closing its city cabinet-making facility for a while until the national economy picks up.

Triangle Pacific has been adversely affected by the downward trend in new housing units.

And that trend is now something more than national statistics as some 80 people from the area are now out of work.

Open late for citizens

The recent announcement by the Forest City School Regional District that it would open certain school offices at night for the convenience of taxpayers and parents brought a smile to our face.

This is certainly a good idea.

Whether or not the taxpayers and parents of the Forest City Regional District will take advantage of the late hours is yet to be seen.

But in the meantime, we salute the district for this idea which should be most helpful to everyone in the district.

And in city

Such an open for business policy was suggested a couple of months ago by Councilman Frank Grecco, Jr., who sought to have the City of Carbondale's finance offices open on Saturday morning for the convenience of city residents who, otherwise, are unable to transact business at the city's municipal building.

However, because of the city's financial situation and union rules, this idea was set aside for the time being.

We hope that — even if it is in the not too foreseeable future — Grecco's idea is eventually accepted.

For those of us who make our living at seeking out information from different sources, including city hall, daytime only hours are no problem.

But for citizens who don't hold jobs with the media, seeking out information or help during normal working hours is out.

ENOUGH mentioning local names — we have to leave some for that. Alice

WE WOULD mention that the Rev. Jim Paul of the Wyalusing Methodist Church visited the MIRROR's office last week. (And no, readers, he is related to the late great Jim Paul, the famed city baker.)

The pastor had a great deal of fun playing with our typesetting machines. But he and that fellow who said that will never be hired for his typing ability.

WE HOPE he's Methodist.

OUR FRIEND says that thanks to inflation and the credit crunch, it's getting harder and harder to live beyond your means these days.

WE SPOTTED a sign (this is for real, folks) that noted: "The earth's surface has six times more water than it does land; therefore, the good Lord obviously intends for us to spend six days out of the week fishing."

Remember when the city had several dairies?

Ab, those were the days, my friends.

AND IF we don't mention Bob Taylor of Spring Street in Carbondale we'll probably get shot or worse yet, get hung by the nearest PRC-77 antenna.

Some days you shouldn't get out of bed at all. Even if you feel like it.

"None, thank you," I purred, and kept smiling. The girl looked at me strangely.

As I dropped Marge at school, she blew me a kiss and repeated: "Hey, Mom, knock it off. Something must be bothering you."

At a local grocery store, I inquired after the health of the owner. I was still smiling. He wore a pained expression as he replied: "I have gallstones and arthritis. I may have a heart surgery." He and I are the same.

I kept smiling.

At a local gas station, I greeted the owner warmly. As he made change for me, he remarked succinctly: "You need a sticker, Nam."

End of conversation.

I burst into the MIRROR office, determined to continue my being-pleasant-in-the-morning campaign. If not for those around me, then for my own sake at least.

"Good grief!" cried two voices in unison.

"You're smiling! What's wrong?"

"Some days you shouldn't get out of bed at all. Even if you feel like it."

"None."

"None."

"None."

"None."

"None."

"None."

"None."

"None."

"None."

"None."

"None."

"None."



The Carbondale Mirror
A published weekly by Dale Bonner, Inc., 64 Fairbrook St., Carbondale, Pa. 18407. Telephone 717-282-0786.
Managing editor, Paul Starnes; features editor, Nan Waters; night editor, Pete Smith; office manager, Bernadette Starnes.

Church notes

Berean Baptist Church, Carbondale

Wednesday, Oct. 28, 12 noon, Glenside Class, at the church, 7:30 p.m., Bible study, with Dr. Claude A. Pullis, pastor, at the parsonage.

Thursday, Oct. 29, 6:45 p.m., The Hymn singing for Children, 7 p.m., choir rehearsal.

Friday, Oct. 30, 7 p.m., church family Halloween party.

Sunday, Nov. 1, 9:45 a.m., church school for all ages, 11 a.m., morning worship, Communion, Sunday with Dr. Pullis, Nursery provided, 6 p.m., Youth Fellowship.

First United Methodist Church of Carbondale

Wednesday, Oct. 28, 9 a.m., quilts will meet, 5:30 p.m., Children's Choir rehearsal, 6 p.m., Methodist Bazaar and Bells Choir practice, 7:30 p.m., Senior Choir rehearsal.

Thursday, Oct. 29, 7:30 p.m., pastor's Bible study.

Friday, Oct. 30, 8:30 p.m., Spots rehearsal.

Sunday, Nov. 1, 9:45 a.m., church school, 10:30 a.m., morning worship service, 6:30 p.m., Methodist Youth Fellowship.

Monday, Nov. 2, 5 p.m., Youth Bell Choir practice, 6 p.m., Methodist Bazaar and Bells Choir practice.

Tuesday, Nov. 3, 4:30 p.m., United Methodist Men's Club will sponsor a potluck and homemade sausage supper in the dining room of the church. Donation is \$3.00 for adults and \$2.50 for children under 12. Tickets available now through Nov. 7 from any member of the group or by calling 281-6699.

Lackawanna Episcopal Ministry

Saturday, Oct. 31, 6:30 p.m., Trinity Episcopal Church, Carbondale, Holy Eucharist, the rectory.

Sunday, Nov. 1, 7:30 a.m., Trinity, Holy Eucharist, the rectory.

Christ Church, Forest City, 9 a.m., Holy Eucharist, the rectory, the Rev. Forrest Vaughn.

St. George's, Oliphant, 9 a.m., Holy Eucharist and sermon, the Rev. John J. Lloyd.

Trinity, 10:30 a.m., Holy Eucharist and sermon, the Rev. Forrest Vaughn.

Sunday, Nov. 1, 9:45 a.m., church school, 11 a.m., morning worship service, with sermon by the Rev. Charles F. Starnes, pastor.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Carbondale

Daily Masses are held at 7 a.m. and 7:30 a.m.

Saturday Masses are: 8 a.m., 9 a.m., and 11 a.m.

First United Methodist Church, Jermyn

Thursday, Oct. 29, choir rehearsal, 6:30 p.m., Chancel, 7 p.m., Junior, 7:30 p.m., Senior, 7:30 p.m., trustees will meet at the parsonage.

Sunday, Nov. 1, 10 a.m., morning worship, 11:15 a.m., Sunday School, 1:15 p.m., church family fellowship meeting, with election of officers scheduled.

Monday, Nov. 2, 7 p.m., Council on Ministries meeting, 7:30 p.m., The Administrative Board meeting.

Tuesday, Nov. 3, 10 a.m., J.O.Y. bake sale at the Jermyn Bank, 3 p.m., J.O.Y. cake meeting. Boys and girls in grades three through six are welcome to this class which meets at the church.

Saturday, Nov. 14, 5:30 p.m., chicken or boudin dinner. Take-out orders from 4:30 p.m. A mini-fair market and a craft sale will be featured. Donation is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. Tickets are on sale from the parsonage, 876-0392, and Pat Wilson, 876-0355.

Honored guests at the dinner will be Dr. Thomas Coleman of Carbondale and Dr. Peter M. Menck, Jermyn.

Burke joined the Chalmers and marketing. He subsequently was promoted to director of economic development with responsibility for overall development, including project financing. SLBICO asset management

and prospect development.

An Archibald native, Burke is an alumnus of Archibald High School and Keystone Junior College. At Dickinson College, Carlisle, he was graduated first in his class of 380, was elected Phi Beta Kappa and earned his degree in economics.

Burke served on the board of Carbondale General Hospital, Lackawanna County Vocational Technical School advisory committee, St. Thomas Aquinas Finance Committee, and is past commander of Legion Post 328.

His professional affiliations include membership in the Industrial Development Research Council, the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association and the Industrial Real Estate Brokers of Metropolitan New York.

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Mirror consumer news

St. Joseph's eyes expansion

St. Joseph's Hospital, Carbondale, last week announced that it is planning to renovate and expand its East Side medical facility.

That announcement came after the hospital's board of directors approved a proposed plan presented by the Hospital Building and Equipment Company. The board met in special session last Tuesday evening.

The plans call for the renovation and expansion of the present facilities to include a four-story patient tower and a one-story ancillary services building.

Under the proposed plan, the number of patient beds will increase from 107 to 154. When completed, the new facility will include:

A new surgery suite with three operating rooms, a recovery room, a radiology suite with ultrasound, nuclear medicine, and X-ray, a new laboratory suite, a new emergency room.

Ninety new medical/surgical beds, 154 patient beds, 10-bed pediatric suite, 24-bed obstetrics suite, 16-bed mental health clinic, drug and alcohol beds.

Ancillary facilities for administration, medical and professional staff and employees.

In addition to the increase in beds, the proposed plans also encompass ancillary facilities for administration, medical and professional staff, as well as employees.

Each of the three sites was evaluated by these factors: site features, zoning, utilities, subsurface conditions, environmental conditions, prime development parcels and related costs.

The study was conducted by Burkavague Evans Associates, architects and engineers. Prior to the public release of the site study, the hospital had held a series of public hearings on Route 106, outside the city was the favored site.

That site evaluation study covered three sites: one in Carbondale's West Side Mine

Fire area, one in Fell and Greenfield townships — the Powell property, and one on U.S. Route 6 in Mayfield — the Towne property.

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Hospital Building and Equipment Co., St. Louis, Mo., will provide services encompassing the proposed design state of the hospital following through to the completion of the building and renovation project.

Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Co. of Philadelphia is the feasibility consultants for the hospital, while Merrill Lynch White West Capital Markets Group of New York City is the investment bankers in planning for the financing of the proposed project.

Community Counseling Services of New York City is conducting a four-week preliminary study in the Carbondale area to assess the community resources and response to the proposed project.

The new facility, as proposed in the plans, will represent an investment in health care in the Carbondale community of between \$15 and \$16 million.

When completed, it will, the hospital stated in a news release, provide an additional \$1,750,000 to its present payroll and will mean approximately 100 new jobs to the community.

As a part of its overall funding plan, the hospital is looking to the Carbondale area to assess the community resources and response to the proposed project.

The proposed construction timetable is Nov. 1981-Oct. 1982, design and bids; Oct. 1982-Sept. 1984, construction; Nov. 1984, anticipated opening.

Meetings were held to reconvene the hospital board and the merger was still on.

As recently as August, officials of the two hospitals held the MIRROR that the merger was not off.

See story on page one for reaction to St. Joseph's announcement that it has plans for expansion.

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